

TO: Humboldt County Board of Supervisors
Humboldt County Courthouse
Eureka, CA 95501

FROM: Bonnie Blackberry
Civil Liberties Monitoring Project
PO Box 544 Redway, CA 95560

Date: June 17, 2013

Re: GPU Guiding Principles review

Chairman Sundberg and Members of the Board,

I attended the June 3, 2013 Board of Supervisors General Plan "Update" meeting regarding the Guiding Principles agenda item. As stated during public input, I supported the Board opening up the Guiding Principles for review and possible changes, along with requesting the Board to continue this item to a future meeting because of the short notice, the difficulty getting the documents and the importance of the issue.

The entire GPU public participation process has been problematic, leaving the current Board of Supervisors the difficult job of making appropriate changes to update the "Update". I, along with many other people were surprised and dismayed to see the Board zoom thru a new draft of the GPU "Guiding Principles" and take a straw vote, ignoring multiple requests for more time for public review and input (public participation) on this obviously important and controversial matter.

The importance, public interest and controversy surrounding the "Guiding Principles" necessitates a public process that encourages public participation rather than cutting it short. There needs to be adequate time for the public to access and review relevant documentation in order to maximize informed participation.

Please reconsider your June 3rd action and reopen the discussion. Set a time giving the public a minimum 2 week notice, allowing more opportunity for public input/involvement in these decisions that are supposed to represent community values and the overall objectives of the General Plan

Also is there a plan for the Board to review any other items/text in Section One, Chapters 1, 2 & 3 ? If yes what and when?

A year ago we were told that definitions would be available when the Land Use Element came before the Board. Is this something the Board needs to request? Here are some terms that need defined: Resource lands, new development, low density, foundational aspects, and planning doctrine.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Blackberry
in behalf of the Civil Liberties Monitoring Project